



North West Water

Dawson House, Great Sankey
Warrington WA5 3LW
Telephone Penketh 4321

RFL/A8

19th April, 1983

To: Members of the Regional Fisheries
Advisory Committee:
(Messrs. T.A.F. Barnes (Chairman);
W.S. Bell; A.G.R. Brown; F. Bunting;
G. Campbell; H. Caunce; T.M. Farrer;
J.H. Fell; J.E. Gouldbourn; R.D. Houghton;
J. Johnson; I. Jones; G.E. Lowe;
Wm. McKenna; J.E. Redhead; G. Wilson;
Major J.G.W. Skipwith and the Chairman
of the Authority (G. Mann); the Vice
Chairman of the Authority (A. Richardson);
and the Chairmen of the Area Advisory
Committees (J.S. Bailey; J.M. Croft;
E.P. Ecroyd (ex officio)).

Dear Member,

Please attend a meeting of the REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY
COMMITTEE to be held at 2.15 p.m. on MONDAY, 25TH APRIL, 1983,
in the BOARD ROOM, DAWSON HOUSE, GREAT SANKEY, for con-
sideration of the following business.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. CRACKLE,
Secretary and Solicitor

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated).
3. Proceedings of Area Fisheries Advisory Committees.

(A) Northern Area - 28th March, 1983.

[Recommendations in the following minutes:

18. Fishing Licence Duties 1984.
(to be considered under item No.4 on the Agenda).
19. Rules for Fishing at Haweswater and Thirlmere - 1983.
22. Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 -
Fishery Byelaws.
(to be considered under Item No.7 on the Agenda].

(B) Central Area - 30th March, 1983.

[Recommendations in the following minutes:

- 13. Fishing Licence Dutes 1984.
(to be considered under Item No.4 on the Agenda).
- 18. Langcliffe Hatchery.
- 19. Report by the Area Fisheries Officers on
Fisheries Activities].

(C) Southern Area - 6th April, 1983.

[Recommendations in the following minutes:

- 16. Fishing Licence Duties 1984.
(to be considered under Item No.4 on the Agenda).
- 22. Membership of the Committee].
- 4. Fishing Licence Duties 1984.
- 5. Fyke nets and otters.
- 6. Whirling disease.
- 7. Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 - Fishery Byelaws.
- 8. National Water Council Publication - 'Fisheries Statistics, 1982'.
- 9. Mersey Estuary and Catchment - oral report.
- 10. Draft Calendar of Meetings, 1983-84.
- 11. Any other business.

RF2/B15

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
NORTHERN AREA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
28TH MARCH, 1983

Present:

E. P. Ecroyd (Chairman)	
Dr. J.I. Abernethy	B. Irving
F. Bunting	A. Marshall
E. Cave	J. S. Marshall
A. C. Findlay	G. B. Sedgwick
A. Gleaden	J. Thompson

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. T.A.F. Barnes, A.E.I. Bell, Wm. McKenna, G. Mann, A. Moffat, A. Richardson and R.B. Woodall.

14. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO MEMBER

The Chairman welcomed Dr. J.I. Abernethy to his first meeting of the Advisory Committee; Dr. Abernethy's appointment having been approved by the Regional Committee on 8th November, 1982.

15. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 11th October, 1982, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16. MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE,
31ST JANUARY, 1983

On minute no.32 (Proposals to combat poaching) the Regional Fisheries Officer reported that the Regional Committee's recommendations had been or were in the process of being implemented. A second meeting with the Cumbria Police would take place to discuss further liaison on anti poaching activities.

17. MINUTES OF THE WEST CUMBRIA SPECIAL FISHERIES ADVISORY GROUP,
9TH MARCH, 1983

Concerning minute no.7 (River Ehen - Augmentation by mine water - BNFL), the Committee noted and wished to be associated with the concern of the Group that the recommended prescribed flow of 35 mgd for the River Ehen downstream of Braystones was too low.

The Committee was assured that the recommendation would be taken into consideration by the officers in their report to a future meeting.

18. FISHING LICENCE DUTIES 1984

The Authority had instructed the Regional Committee to formulate proposals for fishing licence duties for rod and line, commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines to be effective 1st January 1984 of a level at least equal to that required to take account of inflation since the introduction of the current duties and of assumed inflation in 1984-85. This matter was to be discussed by the Regional Committee on 25th April, 1983.

A major restructuring of rod and line fishing licence duties had been undertaken during 1982 where the revised duties, (effective 1st January 1983), had been based on a target income (set at 45% of the total estimated direct fisheries costs) and its apportionment amongst the various angling interests according to the way in which fisheries resources were deployed.

If that apportionment and target income were to remain unchanged for 1984-85, the present rod and line licence duties would need to be increased by 5% on 1st January, 1984.

Licence duties for commercial eel fishing and fishing by nets and fixed engines had last been increased on 1st January, 1982. To increase these to the same base line as the rod and line proposals, a 10% increase would need to be imposed.

The effect of the proposed increases would be:-

(1) Single rod and line (whole area)

	Present duties (1983) £ p	Revised duties (1.1.1984) £ p
(i) Salmon		
Season	27.00	28.50
Season concessionary	13.50	14.25
Seven day	4.50	4.75
(ii) Migratory trout		
Season	9.00	9.50
Season concessionary	4.50	4.75
Seven day	1.50	1.60
(iii) Non-migratory trout (brown trout, rainbow trout and char)		
Season	4.00	4.20
Season concessionary	2.00	2.10
Seven day	1.00	1.00
(iv) Freshwater fish and eels		
Season	3.20	3.40
Season concessionary	1.60	1.70
Seven day	1.00	1.00

Seasonal concessionary licences are issued to juveniles (14-16 years), state retirement pensioners and registered disabled persons.

(2) Commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines

	<u>Present duties (1983) £</u>	<u>Revised duties (1.1.1984) £</u>
COMMERCIAL EEL FISHING		
Fixed eel traps	33.00 per trap per annum	36.30
Eel or fyke nets	65 per net per annum	70
Traps, putcheons or baskets	6.60 per 25 (or part thereof) per annum	7.25

NETS AND FIXED ENGINES

(Area within the boundaries of the
former Cumberland River Authority)

Whole area drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	137.50	151.00
River Eden, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	330.00	363.00
Whole area heave or haaf net	27.50	30.00
River Eden coop	128.70	142.00
River Derwent coop	286.00	315.00
South West Cumberland garth	143.00	157.00

NETS

(Area within the boundaries of the
former Lancashire River Authority)

River Ribble, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 140m in length when wet)	88.00	97.00
River Lune, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 300m in length when wet)	146.30	161.00
River Lune, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	127.60	140.00
River Duddon, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	121.00	133.00
River Lune: heave or haaf net	56.10	62.00
River Kent: lave net	66.00	73.00
River Leven: lave net	55.00	60.00

Notwithstanding the Authority's instruction, the Committee felt that it would be inappropriate to introduce revised licence duties in 1984 and that consideration of this matter should be deferred until the sales of licences and income figures attributable to the recent restructure became available.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That there be no increase in the rod and line licence duties for 1984 and consideration be deferred until the effects of the new structure on licence sales became known.
- (2) There be no increase in commercial eel fishing or nets and fixed engines licence duties for 1984 but that these duties be reassessed at the same time as those for the rod and line licence duties, in accord with (1) above.

19. RULES FOR FISHING AT HAWESWATER AND THIRLMERE - 1983

The Committee considered a draft of general rules governing fishing on Haweswater and Thirlmere which would apply during the 1983 season. The permits to fish these waters were printed in advance of the opening of the season and it had been necessary to include the draft rules on the back of the 1983 permits. The Committee was advised that should it wish to amend any of the rules then such amendments would take effect in 1984.

RECOMMENDED:

That consideration be given to the following matters for inclusion in the rules for the 1984 season:

- (1) One non-fishing companion may accompany an angler free of charge.
- (2) No person under 14 years of age will be issued with a permit unless accompanied by an adult permit holder.
- (3) No dogs allowed.
- (4) A definition of "Wading".
- (5) Under the "Warning", in item 2, the deletion (as repetitive) of the words "by your flies".
- (6) Under "Permitted times", in rule 2, whether the fishing times must be so restrictive.

20. FYKE NETS AND OTTERS

The Nature Conservancy Council had expressed concern that otters could be caught and drowned in fyke nets set for eels. The Welsh Water Authority had made a byelaw requiring that a net or grid of a specified mesh size be placed across the mouths of all fyke nets set to take eels.

Until the new code of fishery byelaws was confirmed by MAFF it was unlikely that the Authority would wish to make a further new byelaw. The Regional Fisheries Officer had, however, written to all fyke

net licensees in the region drawing their attention to the danger and seeking their cooperation in fitting protective netting. The response of the licensees would be monitored by bailiffs.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorses the action taken.

21. WHIRLING DISEASE

On 7th February, 1983, the Authority had considered a report concerning a relaxation of the MAFF policy towards the movement of live fish and eggs from whirling disease infected sites and had resolved:

"That stocking of waters generally within the Authority's area be permitted with trout from whirling disease infected farms, subject to such conditions as may be laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food."

The conditions imposed by MAFF were noted.

In accordance with the Authority resolution, and subject to the provisions of section 30 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 on fish movements, consents for the movement of trout from whirling disease infected farms would in future be issued. Such consents would, however, be restricted to the introduction of fish into disease free areas following consultation with any known fish farm based within the catchment of the receiving river system.

22. SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT 1975 - FISHERY BYELAWS

The Committee noted that the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food had now formally confirmed eleven of the proposed fishery byelaws, namely byelaws 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 25, 27, 28 and 29 which had been made by the Authority on 27th October, 1981.

The confirmed byelaws came into effect on 23rd February, 1983.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That details of catch returns (byelaw 25) be sent to the appropriate Area Fisheries Office, and not Rivers Division, Warrington as at present.
- (2) That in relation to byelaw 29 - the Regional Fisheries Officer arrange for metal marker posts to be placed in the River Esk (Border) at the grid reference points detailed in that byelaw.

23. REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Area Fisheries Officer presented his report on fisheries activities within the area since the last meeting of the Committee.

24. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, 1983-84

The proposed dates for meetings of the Regional and Area Fisheries Advisory Committees for the 'Authority Year' 1983-84 were submitted for information. It was noted that the April, 1984, meeting of the Regional Committee would be held on the 30th. Dates for meetings of the Area Committee were 10th October, 1983 and 26th March, 1984.

RF2/B21

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CENTRAL AREA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
30TH MARCH, 1983

Present:

J. M. Croft (Chairman)

W. Bailey	A. L. Harris
R. Barratt	R. D. Houghton
Dr. R. B. Broughton	Professor W. E. Kershaw
J. H. Fell	J. P. Lord
R. Harper	H. B. Whittan

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. T.A.F. Barnes, R.A. Challenor, G. Mann and A. Richardson.

12. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 13th October, 1982, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

13. FISHING LICENCE DUTIES 1984

The Authority had instructed the Regional Committee to formulate proposals for fishing licence duties for rod and line, commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines to be effective 1st January 1984 of a level at least equal to that required to take account of inflation since the introduction of the current duties and of assumed inflation in 1984-85. This matter was to be discussed by the Regional Committee on 25th April, 1983.

Rod and line fishing licence duties had undergone a major restructure in 1982 when the revised duties, (effective 1st January 1983), had been based on a target income (set at 45% of the total estimated direct fisheries costs) and its apportionment amongst the various angling interests according to the way in which fisheries resources were deployed.

If that apportionment and target income were to remain unchanged for 1984-85, the present rod and line licence duties would need to be increased by 5% on 1st January, 1984.

Licence duties for commercial eel fishing and fishing by nets and fixed engines had last been increased on 1st January, 1982. To increase these to the same base line as the rod and line proposals a 10% increase would need to be imposed.

The effect of the proposed increases would be:-

(1) Single rod and line (whole area)

	<u>Present duties (1983)</u>	<u>Revised duties (1.1.1984)</u>
	£ p	£ p
(i) Salmon		
Season	27.00	28.50
Season concessionary	13.50	14.25
Seven day	4.50	4.75
(ii) Migratory trout		
Season	9.00	9.50
Season concessionary	4.50	4.75
Seven day	1.50	1.60
(iii) Non-migratory trout (brown trout, rainbow trout and char)		
Season	4.00	4.20
Season concessionary	2.00	2.10
Seven day	1.00	1.00
(iv) Freshwater fish and eels		
Season	3.20	3.40
Season concessionary	1.60	1.70
Seven day	1.00	1.00

Seasonal concessionary licences are issued to juveniles (14-16 years), state retirement pensioners and registered disabled persons.

(2) Commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines

	<u>Present duties (1983)</u>	<u>Revised duties (1.1.1984)</u>
	£	£

COMMERCIAL EEL FISHING

Fixed eel traps	33.00 per trap	36.30
	per annum	
Eel or fyke nets	65 per net	70
	per annum	
Traps, putcheons or baskets	6.60 per 25 (or	7.25
	part thereof)	
	per annum	

NETS AND FIXED ENGINES

(Area within the boundaries of the former Cumberland River Authority)

Whole area drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	137.50	151.00
River Eden, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	330.00	363.00
Whole area heave or haaf net	27.50	30.00
River Eden coop	128.70	142.00
River Derwent coop	286.00	315.00
South West Cumberland garth	143.00	157.00

	<u>Present</u> <u>duties</u> (1983) £	<u>Revised</u> <u>duties</u> (1.1.1984) £
NETS		
(Area within the boundaries of the former Lancashire River Authority)		
River Ribble, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 140m in length when wet)	88.00	97.00
River Lune, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 300m in length when wet)	146.30	161.00
River Lune, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	127.60	140.00
River Duddon, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	121.00	133.00
River Lune: heave or haaf net	56.10	62.00
River Kent: lave net	66.00	73.00
River Leven: lave net	55.00	60.00

Although it was felt that to increase rod and line licence duties in 1984 so soon after the inauguration of the new licence structure on 1st January 1983, might well result in a marked decline in the sale of the 'season' salmon licences, the Committee

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That the proposed increases in the rod and line fishing licence duties be approved with reluctance and only on condition that if at the end of the current salmon fishing season it became apparent that a general decline in the sales of seasonal salmon licences had taken place as a result of the 1983 price increase, that the present licence structure be reviewed.
- (2) That the proposed 10% increase in the current commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines licence duties be approved.

14. FYKE NETS AND OTTERS

The Nature Conservancy Council had expressed concern that otters could be caught and drowned in fyke nets set to take eels. The Welsh Water Authority had made a byelaw requiring a net or grid of a specified mesh size to be placed across the mouths of all fyke nets set to take eels.

Until the new code of fishery byelaws was confirmed by MAFF it was unlikely that the Authority would wish to make a further new byelaw. The Regional Fisheries Officer had, however, written to all fyke net licensees in the region drawing their attention to the danger and seeking their cooperation in fitting protective netting. The response of the fyke net licensees would be monitored by bailiffs.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorse the action taken by the Regional Fisheries Officer.

14. WHIRLING DISEASE

On 7th February, 1983, the Authority had considered a report concerning the relaxation by MAFF of its policy towards the movement of live fish and eggs from whirling disease infected sites and had resolved:

"That stocking of waters generally within the Authority's area be permitted with trout from whirling disease infected farms, subject to such conditions as may be laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food."

The conditions imposed by MAFF were noted by the Committee.

15. SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT 1975 - FISHERY BYELAWS

It was noted that the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food had confirmed eleven of the proposed fishery byelaws, namely byelaws 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 25, 27, 28 and 29, which had been made by the Authority on 27th October, 1981.

The confirmed byelaws came into effect on 23rd February, 1983.

16. FURNESS AND SOUTH CUMBRIA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
DECLINE OF SALMON AND SEA TROUT CATCHES

The Furness and South Cumbria Fisheries Association had expressed concern about the severe decline in catches of salmon and sea trout in the rivers in its area, notably the Crake and Duddon and had requested the Authority, as a matter of urgency, to "undertake a considerable programme of seeding and stocking of the west (south) coast of Cumbria, especially the Crake and Duddon". The Association had further recommended that the results of such a programme should be monitored in an attempt to find the cause of the drastic fall-off in catches on these rivers.

The Regional Fisheries Officer drew the Committee's attention to the following facts:

- (i) In 1978, at the express wish of the former Lune, Wyre and Furness LFAC, the picking up and stripping of adult migratory fish within the whole catchment of the River Leven (which included the Crake and Rusland Pool) was discontinued for five years, as was all stocking with juveniles from this source.
- (ii) During these five years, a smolt rearing scheme in floating cages has been implemented; the smolts produced being released in the River Leven.

- (iii) Returns of adult salmon which could be linked with this scheme have been virtually nil. The final releases of smolts associated with the project would, however, take place during the spring/summer of 1983.
- (iv) The Authority was engaged on a two-year programme of work on the River Duddon to investigate the possibility that its ecology may be suffering from the effects of "acid rain".

It had been pointed out to the Association that the introduction of large numbers of juvenile salmon and sea trout into any river which might be affected by acid rain could result in their loss and therefore no gain to the river. The Association had insisted, however, that it did not wish to wait two years or longer for the outcome of the Authority's investigations before steps were taken to improve the fishery.

Despite the Association's concern, the Fisheries Officers were of the opinion that in this case there would be no merit in rushing into a large-scale stocking programme. It was essential that the information available from recent surveys should be assessed and proposals made before taking any action. The officers were to undertake this task during the summer of 1983, following which their firm proposals would be submitted to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorse the officer's action and that if possible their proposals be presented to the October meeting.

17. SPAWNING TRIBUTARIES - RIVERS RIBBLE, HODDER AND WYRE.

Further to minute no.10 of 13th October, 1983, the Committee received a report concerning and detailing the biological conditions in the spawning tributaries of the Rivers Ribble, Hodder and Wyre.

Members were asked that if they knew of a pollution incident in any of the tributaries they should immediately report it by telephone to the Principal Fisheries Assistant, John Nott, at the Authority's Preston Office, or to J.R. Macauley, the Principal Technical Officer, at the Warrington Office to enable immediate action to be taken. Confirmation of their telephoned information should then be sent to the appropriate officer by letter.

18. LANGCLIFFE HATCHERY

The Committee considered a report on the situation at Langcliffe hatchery and the continuing heavy mortalities among the salmon fry reared there.

Limited investigations into the problem, which had first been encountered in the 1970's, had failed to solve it so a comprehensive investigation programme was undertaken in 1982 by Authority staff and the Veterinary Investigation Centre at Calthwaite, Penrith, but again without success. No valid cause for the fry losses could be found.

The fry usually died when they had reached the 'swim-up' stage. For this reason and because no cause had been found, the Regional Fisheries Officer had recommended that future production at Longcliffe should be restricted to unfed fry and that no further investigations take place in view of the substantial and abortive costs already incurred.

In expressing their concern, members suggested that the hatchery be closed down and the annual savings on operating costs be used to buy fed salmon and sea trout fry for restocking the tributaries of the Rivers Ribble and Hodder.

The Regional and Area Fisheries Officers considered the suggestion to be impracticable and that the savings through closure would be negligible. Maintenance work would still be necessary and the unmanned site could be vandalised. Buying-in juvenile salmon had led to an outbreak of furunculosis with consequent heavy losses and, more importantly, salmon fed fry were not readily available locally and would have to be brought from Scotland or Devon. Long distance transport of fry would probably not be conducive to their well-being.

After full and detailed discussion the Committee

RECOMMENDED:

That the propagation of salmon fry at Langcliffe hatchery be discontinued, that no further stocking of the Rivers Ribble and Hodder take place for ten years; and that the Authority investigate the possibility of establishing on a suitable site a new hatchery to replace Langcliffe.

19. REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICERS ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Area Fisheries Officers presented their report on fisheries activities within the area since the last meeting of the Committee.

Reference was made to a recent unsuccessful fishing prosecution undertaken on behalf of the Authority by a firm of local solicitors. It was felt that only solicitors known by the Authority to be well versed in fishery law should be employed to prosecute such cases on its behalf.

Concern was expressed that raw sewage was discharged into the River Ribble during the recent water strike causing pollution and consequential danger to the fishery. As the next review of the manual workers pay would take place in the months leading up to April 1984, it was felt that the potential threat posed to fisheries by a prolonged period of pay negotiations should be brought to the notice of the DoE.

Concern was expressed at the March 1983 pollution of Stocks Beck and the River Ribble caused by cyanide from premises in Barnoldswick. The officers were considering whether to recommend prosecution.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That on fisheries prosecutions in which the Authority uses private solicitors only those known to be well versed in fishery law be engaged.
- (2) That the Authority be requested to bring to the notice of the DoE the potential threat posed to watercourses and fisheries throughout the region in the event of prolonged pay negotiations taking place in 1984.
- (3) That due to the serious nature of the cyanide pollution of the River Ribble in March 1984, the Committee would urge the Authority to prosecute if there is adequate evidence to prove a criminal offence.

20. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, 1983-84

The proposed dates for meetings of the Regional and Area Fisheries Advisory Committees for the 'Authority Year' 1983-84 were submitted for information. It was noted that the April, 1984 meeting of the Regional Committee would be held on the 30th. Dates for meetings of the Area Committee were 12th October, 1983 and 28th March, 1984.

21. DUDDON RIPARIAN OWNERS' ASSOCIATION - ACID RAIN

Mr. Whittam reported that at a recent meeting of the Duddon Riparian Owners' Association concern had been expressed about the effect of acid rain on the Rivers Duddon and Crake and its being a possible cause of decreasing fish stocks and declining catches. The Regional Fisheries Officer reported that although acid rain could be a factor there was no proof. A two-year investigation by the Authority was about to commence.

22. MITTON FISHERY - CANOEING

At the request of the Committee the Regional Fisheries Officer undertook to raise with the Recreation and Amenity Officer the possibility of 'no canoeing' signs being erected upstream and downstream of, and for the protection of, the Authority's Mitton Fishery.

23. RIBBLE FISHERIES ASSOCIATION -
REWARDS FOR THE APPREHENSION AND CONVICTION OF POACHERS.

Mr. Lord reported that Ribble Fisheries Association was offering rewards for information which led to the apprehension and conviction of poachers and suggested that the Authority should do likewise. The Regional Fisheries Officer explained that it would be wrong for the Authority as a public body to offer rewards.

RF1/A1

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
SOUTHERN AREA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
6TH APRIL, 1983

Present:

J. S. Bailey (Chairman)	
D. Bridgewood	P. Neal
A.G.R. Brown	Dr. M. Pugh Thomas
C. Holland	A. Richardson
F.R. James	J.A. Shanahan

14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Messrs. T.A.F. Barnes and G. Mann.

15. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 20th October, 1982 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16. FISHING LICENCE DUTIES 1984

The Authority had instructed the Regional Committee to formulate proposals for fishing licence duties for rod and line, commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines to be effective 1st January 1984 of a level at least equal to that required to take account of inflation since the introduction of the current duties and of assumed inflation in 1984-85. This matter was to be discussed by the Regional Committee on 25th April, 1983.

Rod and line fishing licence duties had undergone a major restructure in 1982 when the revised duties, (effective 1st January 1983), had been based on a target income (set at 45% of the total estimated direct fisheries costs) and its apportionment amongst the various angling interests according to the way in which fisheries resources were deployed. If that apportionment and target income were to remain unchanged for 1984-85, the present rod and line licence duties would need to be increased by 5% on 1st January, 1984.

Licence duties for commercial eel fishing and fishing by nets and fixed engines had last been increased on 1st January 1982. To increase these to the same base line as the rod and line proposals, a 10% increase would have to be imposed.

The effect of the proposed increases would be:-

(1) Single rod and line (whole area)

	<u>Present duties (1983)</u>	<u>Revised duties (1.1.1984)</u>
	£ p	£ p
(i) Salmon		
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(ii) Migratory trout		
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Season concessionary	4.50	4.75
Seven day	1.50	1.60
(iii) Non-migratory trout (brown trout, rainbow trout and char)		
Season	4.00	4.20
Season concessionary	2.00	2.10
Seven day	1.00	1.00
(iv) Freshwater fish and eels		
Season	3.20	3.40
Season concessionary	1.60	1.70
Seven day	1.00	1.00

Seasonal concessionary licences are issued to juveniles (14-16 years), state retirement pensioners and registered disabled persons.

(2) Commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines

	<u>Present duties (1983)</u>	<u>Revised duties (1.1.1984)</u>
	£	£
COMMERCIAL EEL FISHING		
Fixed eel traps	33.00 per trap	36.30
	per annum	
Eel or fyke nets	65 per net	70
	per annum	
Traps, putcheons or baskets	6.60 per 25 (or	7.25
	part thereof)	
	per annum	

NETS AND FIXED ENGINES

(Area within the boundaries of the former Cumberland River Authority)

Whole area drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	137.50	151.00
River Eden, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	330.00	363.00
Whole area heave or haaf net	27.50	30.00
River Eden coop	128.70	142.00
River Derwent coop	286.00	315.00
South West Cumberland garth	143.00	157.00

	<u>Present duties</u> (1983) £	<u>Revised duties</u> (1.1.1984) £
NETS		
(Area within the boundaries of the former Lancashire River Authority)		
River Ribble, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 140m in length when wet)	88.00	97.00
River Lune, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 300m in length when wet)	146.30	161.00
River Lune, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	127.60	140.00
River Duddon, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	121.00	133.00
River Lune: heave or haaf net	56.10	62.00
River Kent: lave net	66.00	73.00
River Leven: lave net	55.00	60.00

Although not directly relevant the Committee felt that it would be reasonable to extend the unemployed persons concession of 50% of the normal day permit charge, presently applying at Worthington and Rivington reservoirs, to all Authority owned waters where day permits are issued. It was suggested that the concession should be available on weekdays only (excluding public holidays) and on proof of unemployment.

Members were reminded that the present licence duties for freshwater fish and eels, season and season concessionary, included surcharges of 20p and 10p which had been introduced to finance the newly inaugurated Fishery Improvement Grant and Fishery Equipment Loan Schemes. The Committee emphasised that it should be made clear that the 5% increase now sought should not apply to these surcharges which would remain unchanged.

RESOLVED:

That a report on concessionary permit charges for the unemployed (on the lines indicated above) be submitted for consideration by the Committee at the October meeting.

RECOMMENDED:

That the proposed increases in the rod and line, commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines licence duties be approved.

17. FYKE NETS AND OTTERS

The Nature Conservancy Council had expressed concern that otters

could be caught and drowned in fyke nets set to take eels. The Welsh Water Authority had made a byelaw requiring a net or grid of a specified mesh size to be placed across the mouths of all fyke nets set to take eels.

Until the new code of fishery byelaws was confirmed by MAFF it was unlikely that the Authority would wish to make a further new byelaw. The Regional Fisheries Officer had, however, written to all fyke net licensees in the region drawing their attention to the danger and seeking their cooperation in fitting protective netting. The response of the licensees would be monitored by bailiffs.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorses the action taken by the Regional Fisheries Officer.

18. WHIRLING DISEASE

On 7th February, 1983, the Authority had considered a report concerning the relaxation by MAFF of its policy towards the movement of live fish and eggs from whirling disease infected sites and had resolved:

"That stocking of waters generally within the Authority's area be permitted with trout from whirling disease infected farms, subject to such conditions as may be laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The conditions imposed by MAFF were noted by the Committee.

In accordance with the resolution of the Authority and subject to the MAFF conditions and to the statutory procedures of section 30 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975, consents for the movement of trout from whirling disease infected farms would, in suitable instances, be issued. Such consents would, however, only be issued for the introduction of fish from infected sources after full consultation with any known fish farm which existed in the catchment of the river involved, and subject to the agreement of the owner.

19. SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT 1975 FISHERY BYELAWS

It was reported that the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food had confirmed eleven of the proposed fishery byelaws, namely byelaws 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 25, 27, 28 and 29 which had been made by the Authority on 27th October, 1981.

The confirmed byelaws came into effect on 23rd February, 1983.

20. REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Area Fisheries Officer presented his report on fisheries activities within the area since the last meeting of the Committee.

In relation to item 2, (pilot hatchery) the Regional Fisheries Officer explained that consideration was being given to the establishment, on a production basis, of a coarse fish hatchery based upon experience gained in operating the pilot hatchery but that difficulties were being experienced in finding an acceptable site.

In relation to item no.3, (stocking by the Authority) the Area Fisheries Officer (South) undertook to provide Mr. James with particulars of the place on the Trent and Mersey Canal where 500 roach from Bostock Hall stockpond had been introduced.

21. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, 1983-84

The proposed dates for meetings of the Regional and Area Fisheries Advisory Committees for the Authority Year 1983-84 were submitted for information. It was noted that the April, 1984 meeting of the Regional Committee would be held on the 30th. Dates for meetings of the Area Committee were 19th October, 1983 and 4th April, 1984.

22. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Further to minute no.4 of the last meeting, Mersey and Weaver Anglers Consultative Association had nominated Mr. Holmes of 72 Coronation Avenue, Alsager, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire, to serve on the Committee. Mr. Holmes was active in the interests of angling within the area.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Regional Committee be invited to confirm the appointment of Mr. Holmes to this Committee.

23. FISHERY EQUIPMENT LOAN AND FISHERY IMPROVEMENT GRANT SCHEMES

In answer to a question the Regional Fisheries Officer explained that requests for assistance under the equipment loan scheme should be made to the AFO (South) and those for grant aid should be made to him. Attempts were being made to find a suitable site for the storage of equipment used on the loan scheme.

24. WHITLEY POOL

Questioned about pollution at Whitley Pool, the Area Fisheries Officer (South) reported that the required information could be obtained from Mr. J.R. Macauley, the Principal Technical Officer or Mr. L. Hill, the Assistant Divisional Scientist (South) at Rivers Division, Warrington Office.

25. MEETINGS OF THE MERSEY AND WEAVER CONSULTATIVE ASSOCIATION

Questioned about officer attendance at future meetings of the Mersey and Weaver Consultative Association now that Mr. Pritchett had left the Authority the Area Fisheries Officer (South) said that whenever possible he or a member of his staff would attend. Mr. Neal undertook to give the AFO (South) details of future meetings.

26. APPRECIATION OF THE WORK OF THE AUTHORITY

Mr. Richardson advised the Committee that this meeting would be its last under the constitution of the present North West Water Authority because if the Water Bill was enacted the new Authority would come into being on 1st October, 1983. Accordingly the Chairman and Committee wished to record their appreciation of the valuable help and assistance given to the Committee by the Authority and its officers over the past 9 years and in particular for the ready help and advice offered and given by the Fisheries Department staff to all angling interests. It was hoped that similar cooperation would be given at all levels by the new Authority.

RF1/A10

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY
REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

25TH APRIL, 1983

FISHING LICENCE DUTIES 1984

The attached report was submitted to the three area committees at the March/April round of meetings. The recommendations of these committees are contained in their respective minutes, but for the convenience of members are summarised below:-

A. Recommendations of Northern Area Committee

- "(1) That there be no increase in the rod and line licence duties for 1984 and consideration be deferred until the effects of the new structure on licence sales became known.
- (2) There be no increase in commercial eel fishing or nets and fixed engines licence duties for 1984, but that these duties be reassessed at the same time as those for the rod and line licence duties, in accord with (1) above."

B. Recommendations of Central Area Committee

- "(1) That the proposed increases in the rod and line fishing licence duties be approved with reluctance and only on condition that if at the end of the current salmon fishing season it became apparent that a general decline in the sales of seasonal salmon licences had taken place as a result of the 1983 price increase, that the present licence structure be reviewed.
- (2) That the proposed 10% increase in the current commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines licence duties be approved."

C. Recommendation of Southern Area Committee

"That the proposed increases in the rod and line, commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines licence duties be approved."

The Committee is now requested to make its own recommendations on this matter.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE25TH APRIL, 1983FISHING LICENCE DUTIES 1984

1. At its budget meeting on 7th February, the Authority resolved "That the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee be instructed to formulate proposals for fishing licence duties for rod and line, commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines to be effective from 1st January 1984 of a level at least equal to that required to take account of inflation since the introduction of the current respective duties and of assumed inflation in 1984-85". During the debate the Chairman of the Advisory Committee argued strongly that after several annual revisions resulting in increases in duties there should be a period of stability and consolidation.

2. Rod and Line Fishing Licence Duties

After extensive investigation and discussion in committee a major restructuring of the licence duties was undertaken last year. The revised duties were introduced on 1st January 1983, and were based on a target income (set at 45% of the total estimated direct fisheries costs) and its apportionment amongst the various angling interests according to the way in which resources were deployed. Duties for salmon licences were increased from £19.80 to £27, for migratory trout from £6.60 to £9, for non migratory trout from £3.90 to £4 whilst the duty for a coarse fishing licence was reduced from £3.90 to £3.20.

3. On the assumption that the principles of the apportionment and target income should remain unchanged for 1984-85 the Authority's direction would result in the following duties being levied from 1st January 1984:-

	<u>Present</u> <u>duties</u> (1983)	<u>Revised</u> <u>duties</u> (1.1.1984)
	£ p	£ p
(i) Salmon		
Season	27.00	28.50
Season concessionary	13.50	14.25
Seven day	4.50	4.75
(ii) Migratory trout		
Season	9.00	9.50
Season concessionary	4.50	4.75
Seven day	1.50	1.60
(iii) Non-migratory trout (brown trout, rainbow trout and char)		
Season	4.00	4.20
Season concessionary	2.00	2.10
Seven day	1.00	1.00
(iv) Freshwater fish and eels		
Season	3.20	3.40
Season concessionary	1.60	1.70
Seven day	1.00	1.00

The concessionary seasonal licences are issued to juveniles (14-16 years), state retirement pensioners and registered disabled persons.

4. Commercial eel fishing and nets and fixed engines fishing licence duties

Duties for these licences were last increased on 1st January 1982. Anticipated inflation during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 would justify a 10% increase resulting in:-

	Present duties (from 1982) £	Revised duties £
COMMERCIAL EEL FISHING		
Fixed eel traps	33.00 per trap per annum	36.30
Eel or fyke nets	65 per net per annum	70
Traps, putcheons or baskets	6.60 per 25 (or part thereof) per annum	7.25

NETS AND FIXED ENGINES

(Area within the boundaries of the former Cumberland River Authority)

Whole area drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	137.50	151.00
River Eden, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 275m in length when wet)	330.00	363.00
Whole area heave or haaf net	27.50	30.00
River Eden coop	128.70	142.00
River Derwent coop	286.00	315.00
South West Cumberland garth	143.00	157.00

NETS

(Area within the boundaries of the former Lancashire River Authority)

River Ribble, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 140m in length when wet)	88.00	97.00
River Lune, drift, hang or whammel net (not exceeding 300m in length when wet)	146.30	161.00
River Lune, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	127.60	140.00
River Duddon, draw, draft or seine net (not exceeding 185m in length when wet)	121.00	133.00
River Lune: heave or haaf net	56.10	62.00
River Kent: lave net	66.00	73.00
River Leven: lave net	55.00	60.00

5. Will the Area Committee please make recommendations for consideration by the Regional Committee which in turn will formulate proposals to the Authority in accordance with the resolution quoted in para 1.

RF2/A27

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE25TH APRIL, 1983FYKE NETS AND OTTERS

1. Recent correspondence with the Nature Conservancy Council at Bowness-on-Windermere has brought to the attention of the Authority the fact that otters are very liable to be caught and drowned in fyke nets set for eels. Three otters had been killed in this way in South Cumbria during November 1982 and two others, one of them a lactating female, killed near Carnforth two months earlier. The latter loss was particularly distressing because the litter of cubs would have died. Mention was also made of the loss of at least 23 otters in fyke nets over a period of only eighteen months in South Uist and Benbecula in the Outer Hebrides in the middle 1970s.
2. The Nature Conservancy Council's officer explained that, at the Council's request, the Welsh Water Authority had made a byelaw requiring that some form of netting or grid should be placed across the mouth of all fyke nets set to take eels, the mesh size of this protective fitting being in accordance with a specification provided by the NCC.
3. While the Regional Fisheries Officer is in full agreement with the Council that some such measure should be enforced, preferably by byelaw, he has explained to the NCC that until the new code of fishery byelaws is confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food there seems little likelihood that the Authority would wish to initiate a further new byelaw for the protection of otters. Action has, however, been taken to send out to all fyke net licensees in the region a letter drawing their attention to the danger posed to otters by fyke nets and seeking their co-operation in fitting protective netting to exclude them. Some 20 licensees, operating a considerably greater number of nets, are likely to be involved in the course of a year, and their response to the Authority's request will be monitored by bailiffs.
4. This report was presented to the area advisory committees at their March/April meetings when all three committees endorsed the action taken by the Regional Fisheries Officer.

RF2/A6

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE25TH APRIL, 1983WHIRLING DISEASE

1. The report, attached as an appendix, concerning a relaxation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's policy towards the movement of live fish and eggs from whirling disease infected sites, was presented to the meeting of the Authority on 7th February, 1983, when it was resolved:

"That stocking of waters generally within the Authority's area be permitted with trout from whirling disease infected farms, subject to such conditions as may be laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food".

2. The Authority has now been notified of the conditions imposed by MAFF which are as follows:
 - (a) each consignment must be moved directly to the receiving site;
 - (b) the vehicle and tanks used for moving a consignment must be disinfected immediately after delivery and before the vehicle visits, or the tanks are taken to, another fish farm or fishery site;
 - (c) records must be kept of the numbers and identity of the fish or fish eggs in each consignment, to whom they were moved, the transport used (i.e. vehicle make and registration number) and the date of each movement; these records must be made available to a Ministry Inspector at any reasonable time.
3. These matters were reported to and noted by the three area advisory committees at their March/April meetings.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYAUTHORITY MEETING7TH FEBRUARY, 1983WHIRLING DISEASE

1. On 24th April 1982, the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee considered the question of stocking certain reservoir fisheries within the catchment of the River Mersey with trout from fish farms affected by Whirling Disease, which is a Notifiable Disease under the Diseases of Fish Act 1937. The reservoirs in question discharge into rivers which, by reason of pollution, soon become fishless. MAFF's Fish Diseases Laboratory had advised that, in these circumstances, there could be no risk to fisheries, as the disease affects only fry - and primarily the fry of rainbow trout - under the crowded conditions which exist in a hatchery.
2. The Regional Committee accepted that, apart from these reservoir fisheries, stocking consents under S.30 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 should not be issued by the Authority for the introduction of trout from infected farms into any other waters.
3. MAFF have now decided to relax their policy towards the movement of live fish and eggs from Whirling Disease infected sites. They will, in future, normally authorise movements between farms infected with the disease. In addition, they will consider authorising, subject to conditions, movements from infected farms into other waters, provided that the water authority in whose area the receiving water is located has issued a S.30 consent, and that proof of such issue is furnished by the supplying farm when seeking MAFF authorisation for the movement. In considering whether to grant authorisation, MAFF will consider whether there are any uninfected farms in the catchment of the river to which the fish are to be introduced.
4. The effect of this relaxation of MAFF policy is to make it possible for trout for stocking fishing waters to be supplied from Whirling Disease infected farms. It would, however, be improper for Fisheries Department staff to issue the necessary S.30 consents in the absence of amendment of the restrictive approach adopted by the Regional Committee in April 1982. As the next meeting of the Regional Committee is scheduled for 25th April 1983, and as the next three months are the period when most fish farms deliver many of their annual orders, it is considered unreasonable to withhold the issue of S.30 consents during that period. Accordingly, the position has been considered by the Chairman of the Regional Committee and the Chairman of the Authority who have agreed that the restrictive approach to stocking with trout from infected farms, adopted in April 1982, should be modified in the light of the MAFF's relaxed policy.
5. It is therefore recommended that stocking of waters generally within the Authority's area should be permitted with trout from Whirling Disease infected farms, subject to such conditions as MAFF may lay down. It is understood that these will be notified shortly.

RF1/A7

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

25TH APRIL, 1983

SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT 1975 - FISHERY BYELAWS

The attached report was submitted to and noted by the three area committees at the March/April round of meetings when, as reported in Northern Area Committee minute no.22 that Committee also recommended:

- "(1) That details of catch returns (byelaw 25) be sent to the appropriate Area Fisheries Office, and not Rivers Division, Warrington as at present.
- (2) That in relation to byelaw 29 - the Regional Fisheries Officer arrange for metal marker posts to be placed in the River Esk (Border) at the grid reference points detailed in that byelaw."

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

25TH APRIL, 1983

SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT 1975 -
FISHERY BYELAWS

1. The Authority have been notified that the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has confirmed eleven of the proposed Fishery Byelaws, namely byelaws 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 25, 27, 28 and 29 which were made by the Authority on 27th October, 1981.

2. The confirmed Byelaws came into effect on the date of their confirmation by the Minister, 23rd February, 1983, and subject to the modifications (made with the consent of the Authority) specified in paragraph 3 below. The newly confirmed Byelaws are as follows:-

8. The weekly close time for salmon and trout
(other than with rod and line)

The weekly close time for fishing for salmon and trout (other than with rod and line) shall be the period between the hour of six on Saturday morning and the hour of six on the following Monday morning with the following exception:

In the Solway Firth the period between the hour of six on Saturday morning and the hour of twelve midnight on the following Sunday.

9. Limitation of netting

The use of any net (not being a fixed engine or a landing net used in conjunction with a rod and line) for taking salmon, trout, freshwater fish, or eels is prohibited except for the use of the stated types of nets in the following parts of the Authority's area:

- (a) In the Solway Firth - heave or haaf nets.
- (b) In the River Eden - draw, draft or seine nets.
- (c) In the Cumbrian Coastal Waters excluding the Ellen Protected Area, the Derwent Protected Area, the Ehen/Calder Protected Area and the Irt/Esk Protected Area as defined - drift, hang or whammel nets.
- (d) In the Duddon Estuary - draw, draft or seine nets.
- (e) In the Leven Estuary - lave nets.
- (f) In the Kent Estuary - lave nets.

- (g) (i) In the Lune Estuary - heave or haaf nets.
- (ii) In the Middle Lune Estuary - draw, draft or seine nets.
- (iii) In the Lower Lune Estuary - drift, hang or whammel nets.
- (h) In the Wyre Estuary - heave or haaf nets after 30th June, 1982.
- (i) In the Ribble Estuary - drift, hang or whammel nets.

Provided that this byelaw shall not apply to:

- (i) any net necessarily and solely used for the purpose of removing from a fixed engine the fish caught by that fixed engine, or
- (ii) to any person using a net of any kind with the prior permission in writing of the Authority, and subject to any conditions contained therein.

10. Regulation of nets

- (i) Drift, hang or whammel nets shall for the purpose of these byelaws be unarmoured nets without bags or pockets, consisting of a single sheet of netting measuring when wet -
 - (a) When used in the Ribble Estuary, not more than 140 metres in length and not more than 34 meshes deep at any point and having meshes not less than 82mm in extension from knot to knot, or 328mm round the four sides;
 - (b) When used in the Lower Lune Estuary, not more than 300 metres in length and not more than 44 meshes deep at any point and having meshes not less than 63mm in extension from knot to knot or 252mm round the four sides;
 - (c) When used in any other part of the Authority's area meshes not less than 50mm in extension from knot to knot or 200mm round the four sides and a length of not more than 300 metres;
- (ii) Heave or haaf nets shall, for the purposes of these byelaws be of single netting of a mesh measuring when wet not less than 50mm in extension from knot to knot, or 200mm round the four sides and shall be so constructed as to form a bag or purse suspended from a wooden frame, consisting of a heave, beam, or pole not exceeding 5.5 metres in length having at each end an end stick or projecting arm not exceeding 1.25 metres in length except that within the Solway Firth the mesh shall measure when wet not less than 44mm from knot to knot or 176mm round the four sides and the end sticks or projecting arms shall not exceed 1.9 metres;

- (iii) Lave nets shall, for the purposes of these byelaws be of single netting of a mesh measuring when wet not less than 50mm in extension from knot to knot or 200mm round the four sides and which shall be constructed to form a bag or purse attached to a yoke in the shape of a "v", the widest part of which shall not exceed 2 metres, and which shall be fitted with a hand staff to the apex of the yoke;
- (iv) Draw, draft or seine nets shall, for the purposes of these byelaws, be unarmoured nets without bags or pockets consisting of a single sheet or wall of netting, having meshes measuring when wet not less than 50mm in extension from knot to knot or 200mm round the four sides and a length of not more than 275 metres with the exceptions that when used in the Middle Lune and Duddon estuaries the nets shall have the following measurements when wet namely; a length of not more than 185 metres and a depth on the middle of the net of not more than 144 meshes;
- (v) For the purposes of paragraphs (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) of this byelaw measurements from knot to knot shall be in relation to each side of the square of the mesh;
- (vi) The use of any net made wholly or partly of mono-filament material is prohibited.

11. Regulation of use of nets

Where, under the provisions of byelaw 9 the use of any of the nets therein mentioned is permitted such nets shall not be used in any manner except that prescribed by the succeeding paragraphs of this byelaw.

- (i) The number of operatives allowed to work a drift, hang or whammel net at any time shall be limited to two and the number allowed to work a draw, draft or seine net at any time is limited to three.
- (ii) The manner of using a drift, hang or whammel net shall be as follows, namely it shall be shot or paid out from a boat and the boat and net attached shall float or drift with the tide provided that no drift, hang or whammel net or any part thereof, shall be used within 185 metres from any part of another drift, hang or whammel net already in use;

Provided that no drift, hang or whammel net shall be worked across more than three-quarters of the water in the channel at the time of fishing;
- (iii) The manner of using a heave or haaf net shall be by one person supporting or holding the net and lifting or scooping any fish that may become enclosed in the net;
- (iv) The manner of using a lave net shall be by one person standing or moving in the water and supporting or holding the net and lifting or scooping any fish. No person shall use a lave net

in proximity to a fixed net, designed to catch other fish, in such a way that the migratory fish are restricted in movement by such fixed net thereby facilitating their taking in the lave net;

- (v) The manner of using a draw, draft or seine net shall be as follows, namely one end of the rope of the net shall be held on the shore or bank and the net shall be shot out or paid out from a boat which shall start from such shore or bank, and return thereto without pause or delay, and the net shall thereupon be drawn into and landed on such shore or bank and no net shall be shot out or paid out from any point within 90 metres from any part of the space on the shore or bank between the point of starting and the point of return of the boat during the said operation or until after expiration of 15 minutes from the time at which the net is completely drawn in and landed. No draw, draft or seine net shall be worked across more than three-quarters of the water in the channel at the time of fishing.

The hand ropes attached to the ends of the net shall not be considered part of such net.

12. Numbering of licences, nets and boats

Any number bearing label issued by the Authority in respect of a licensed net shall at all times while the net is being used for fishing be attached to the headrope of the net or, in the case of a heave or haaf net, to that part most nearly corresponding to the headrope. Except that in the case of heave or haaf nets it shall not be an offence if the label is carried on the person of the licence holder when operating the net.

The same number shall be conspicuously painted and maintained in white numerals not less than 150mm high and 20mm wide, on a black background, or in black numerals on a white background, on the outside and near the centre of the gunwale on each side of the boat from or in connection with which the net is used. Provided that this byelaw shall not apply to boats that are already required to display numbers by the Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats Registry) Order 1927 (S.I. 1927/642).

13. Carrying of nets during annual close season

No person shall, during the annual close season for salmon, carry or permit to be carried in any boat any net capable of taking salmon, other than a landing net or a net commonly used in the area for sea fishing if carried in a boat or vessel commonly used for that purpose.

14. Carrying of unlicensed nets

The carrying in or attaching to a boat or vessel whilst being used in fishing for salmon or trout of any net (other than a landing net) which is not licensed or if licensed has not attached thereto the label referred to in byelaw 12, is hereby prohibited.

25. Returns of net and rod catches

Any person to whom a licence is issued to fish for salmon or migratory trout within the Authority's area shall in the month of November each year in the case of anglers and on the last day of the months of March, April, May, June, July, August and September where appropriate in the case of netsmen, either (i) send a return to the Authority in the appropriate form provided by the Authority of any such fish he has taken within the Authority's area during the period or periods specified in such forms or (ii) if he has taken no such fish, send to the Authority a statement that he has taken no such fish during such period or periods.

27. Application

These byelaws shall not apply to any employee of the Authority acting in his official capacity or to any person who with the permission in writing of the Authority and acting in accordance with any conditions attached to that permission carries out work connected with the maintenance improvement and development of a fishery or for some scientific purpose.

28. Revocation of existing byelaws

All existing byelaws made by the Authority under the powers contained in the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 with the exception of the River Lune Byelaws and the Skerton Weir Byelaws are hereby revoked.

29. Interpretation

- (i) In these byelaws, unless the context otherwise requires, "Authority" means the North West Water Authority.

"Authority's Area" means the area of the Authority as defined in Section 2(2) of and in Schedule 1 and paragraph 4 of Schedule 2 to, the Water Act 1973.

"River Lune Byelaws" means byelaws made by the Authority regulating the Annual Close Season for salmon (rod and line) in the River Lune and the Weekly Close Time for salmon and trout (other than rod and line) in the estuary of the River Lune, and confirmed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 31st March, 1980.

"Skerton Weir Byelaws" means byelaws made by the Authority regulating fishing at Skerton Weir on the River Lune and confirmed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 15th February 1979.

"Solway Firth" for the purposes of these byelaws means those tidal waters and parts of the sea within the Authority's area between a line drawn from the centre of the Golf Hotel at Powfoot at national grid reference NY 14686546 to the eastern extremity of Grune Point at national grid reference NY 14395684 and:

(i) In the River Esk (Border), a line drawn across the river from national grid reference NY 32456503 to national grid reference NY 32456632.

(ii) For the purposes of byelaws 9, 10 and 11:

In the River Eden, a line drawn across the river from national grid reference NY 33656182 to national grid reference NY 33656155.

"Year" means the period from and including 1st January to and including 31st December following.

(ii) "River Eden" means that part of the River Eden between the eastern limit of the Solway Firth and the disused railway bridge at national grid reference NY 383565 near Stainton in the City of Carlisle.

"Cumbrian Coastal Waters" means those tidal waters and parts of the sea to a distance of six nautical miles measured from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured adjoining the coast of Cumbria between the western limit of the Solway Firth and a line running true south-west from the summit of Black Combe at national grid reference SD 135855.

"Ellen Protected Area" means those tidal waters and parts of the sea within a radius of 3 kms (1.6188 nautical miles) from the beacon at the seaward end of the south pier at Maryport.

"Derwent Protected Area" means those tidal waters and parts of the sea within a radius of 3 kms (1.6188 nautical miles) from the beacon on the south pier at Workington.

"Ehen/Calder Protected Area" means those tidal waters and parts of the sea within a radius of 3 kms (1.6188 nautical miles) from the centre of the railway bridge over the River Calder at national grid reference NY 025027.

"Irt/Esk Protected Area" means those tidal waters and parts of the sea within a radius of 4 kms (2.1584 nautical miles) from the railway station at Ravensglass.

"Duddon Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Duddon seaward of a line drawn through Dunnerholme Point and Green Road Railway Station.

"Leven Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Leven seaward of a line drawn parallel to, and 350m below the Leven Viaduct near Ulverston.

"Kent Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Kent seaward of a line drawn parallel to and 350m below the Kent Viaduct at Arnside.

"Lune Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Lune seaward of Carlisle Bridge in the City of Lancaster.

"Middle Lune Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Lune which lies seaward of a line drawn true south-east from the landward end of the breakwater at Bazil Point.

"Lower Lune Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Lune which lies seaward of a line drawn from Cockersand Abbey lighthouse to the seaward extremity, at high water springs, of Sunderland Point.

"Wyre Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Wyre seaward of Shard Bridge.

"Ribble Estuary" means that part of the estuary of the River Ribble which lies seaward of a line drawn due south from the Naze at Freckleton.

3. The modifications to the Byelaws referred to in paragraph 2 are as follows:-

Byelaw 8 - The Weekly closetime for salmon and trout (other than with rod and line)

The word "exception" shall be amended to read "exceptions". The figure (i) shall be inserted before the word "In" and the following new sub-paragraph shall be added;

- "(ii) In the Ellen Protected Area the period between the hour of six on Thursday morning and the hour of six on the following Monday morning".

Byelaw 9 - Limitation of netting

In sub-paragraph (h) "30th June 1982" shall be amended to read "31st December 1985". The following new sub-paragraph shall be added:

- "(j) In the Ellen Protected Area - heave or haaf nets."

Byelaw 11 - Regulation of Use of Nets

In sub-paragraph (i) the word "operatives" shall be amended to read "persons"; the word "two" amended to read "three" and the word "three" amended to read "four".

Byelaw 25 - Returns of net and rod catches

The letter "(a)" shall be inserted before the word "Any" in the first line of the byelaw and the words "provided by the Authority" in lines 6 and 7 of the byelaw shall be deleted and substituted by the words "set out in paragraph (b) of this byelaw (giving the particulars indicated therein)". The following new sub-paragraph shall be added:

"(b) In the case of anglers the following is the appropriate form:-

198 Month in which fish taken	SALMON			MIGRATORY TROUT		
	*Name(s) of river(s) from which taken	No. of fish taken	Individual weights	*Name(s) of river(s) from which taken	No. of fish taken	Individual weights
January				X		
February						
March						
April						
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						

Name of Angler:

Address:

.....

.....

Date:

*NOTE: (i) Please distinguish between Border Esk and West Cumbria Esk and between Ribble Calder, Wyre Calder and West Cumbria Calder.

(ii) If the space provided for the particulars required is insufficient, please use a separate sheet of paper.

In the case of netsmen the following is the appropriate form:-

Return for month of in the year 19							
Date	Day	No. of salmon taken	Individual weights of salmon	No. of grilse taken	Individual weights of grilse	No. of migratory trout taken	Individual weight of migratory trout
	Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat						
	Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat						
	Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat						
	Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat						
	Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat						

Name of Netsman:

Address:

.....

.....

Date:

NOTE: If the space provided for the particulars required is insufficient, please use a separate sheet of paper.

Byelaw 28 - Revocation of existing byelaws

the whole byelaw shall be deleted and the following byelaw inserted in its place.

"All presently subsisting byelaws made by the Authority under powers conferred by section 28(6) and Schedule 3 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 shall be deemed to be revoked as and when each such byelaw is superseded by a new relevant or corresponding byelaw and when the said new byelaw is duly confirmed by the Minister".

Byelaw 29 - Interpretation

The following new sub-paragraph shall be added:

"(iii) For the purpose of Byelaw 5;

"enclosed waters" means waters from which or into which fish cannot normally swim to or from other waters".

4. The three area committees were notified of this matter at the March/April round up meetings.
5. In accordance with Regional Committee minute no.46 of 26th April 1982, the detailed modifications to the byelaws, set out in paragraph 3 of this report, have been agreed by the Chairman of the Regional Committee and the Chairmen of the three area Committees.

RF2/A8

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

25TH APRIL, 1983

NATIONAL WATER COUNCIL PUBLICATION -
"FISHERIES STATISTICS, 1982"

1. The Salmon Sales Group, which was set up as a Sub-Committee of the NWC's Fisheries Advisory Committee, gave some consideration, in the course of its work, to the collection and presentation of fisheries statistics, with particular reference to salmon catches in England and Wales. These are of interest to MAFF both nationally and in connection with international negotiations. In collaboration with NWC, a detailed summary of relevant statistics for 1981 was compiled by the Water Authorities and published by NWC under the title "Fisheries Statistics, 1982" - a slightly misleading title which will be amended appropriately in future editions.
2. MAFF have undertaken to co-ordinate publication in future years in the same format, in order to ensure standardisation and continuity.
3. A copy of the publication is attached for Members of this Committee.

[illegible]

Fisheries statistics 1982

Preface

Before the 1974 reorganisation of the water industry in England and Wales, a digest of fisheries (inland) statistics was published annually in the *Year book* of the Association of River Authorities. Since then, briefer summaries have been published by the Department of the Environment in its *Water Data* series and more recently in its *Digest of environmental pollution and water statistics*. In reviewing the present availability of information, the Fisheries Advisory Committee of the National Water Council decided that it would be worthwhile resuming production of more comprehensive statistics and asked a small group of officers to undertake the task. *Fisheries statistics* is the result.

Fisheries statistics contains detailed figures about fisheries in England and Wales in the 1981 season with summaries for earlier years. It has been prepared under the guidance of G.H. Bielby and A.S. Champion with support from staff at the National Water Council.

When referring to these tables, it is important not to jump too readily to conclusions, especially in relation to the significance of fish catches. It must be appreciated that these are reported catches only and as such may not universally be entirely accurate. Even if every fish caught had been faithfully recorded, there would still remain the problem that the relationship between catch and stock is, to say the least, uncertain. Wise interpretation therefore requires a cautious approach.

Despite these acknowledged shortcomings, the committee feels that the production of this document is a worthwhile exercise and it is confident that it will be widely used. It is hoped that annual publication will prove possible from now on and that the quality of the information provided will steadily be improved so as to increase its usefulness.

F.A. Jennings

Chairman, Fisheries Advisory Committee

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Table 1 Number and value of fishing licences issued in 1981

(i) Rod and line

Water Authority	Salmon		Sea trout		Trout		Freshwater fish	
	no.	value £	no.	value £	no.	value £	no.	value £
North West	7,617	79,395	3,588	15,407	89,556			238,791
Northumbrian	4,189			34,892	18,592	65,312	4,725	7,084
Severn Trent	1,813			26,356	293,247			560,912
Yorkshire	364			5,100	116,582			287,451
Anglian	277,503							470,473
Thames	181,300							529,924
Southern	67	1,034	12,544		49,397	137,301		188,171
Wessex	636	8,877	6,934		34,854	43,278		135,167
South West	6,127			47,443	12,059	25,048	10,676	8,723
Welsh	21,502			255,124	76,187	206,448	18,974	39,741

(ii) Commercial

Water Authority	Salmon and sea trout				Eels		
	Area and/or instrument		number of endorsees	value £	Method	no.	value £
		no.					
North West	Solway — Haaf nets	164	4,100	na	Fyke nets	17	110
	Eden — Draw/Coops	4	834		Baskets, Traps	4	24
	W & SW — Nets & fixed engines	6	490		Putcheons		
	Cumbria — Drift nets	4	500				
	Coastal						
	Ribble — Drift nets	6	480				
	Lune — Drift nets	10	1,330				
	Lune — Draw nets	4	436				
	Dudden						
	Lune — Haaf nets	26	1,326				
	Kent — Lave nets	8	480				
	Leven — Lave nets	6	300				
Northumbrian	North area	75	13,174	439	Fyke nets	365	0
	South area	43	3,478		Traps	40	0
Severn Trent	Lave — Full	57	1,425	137	Various	48	210
	Lave — Half	38	475		Elver	1,303	5,550
	Draft nets	6	408				
	Fixed instruments	24	2,851				
Yorkshire	T or J	29	4,408	215	Fyke nets	275	619
	Drift nets	34	5,168		Beam trawl, trap	2	5
Anglian	Nets	154	430	225	Various	1,680	2,367
Thames		—	—	—	no licencing	—	—
Southern	Seine	4	4	4	no licencing	—	—
Wessex	Draft nets	8	649	50	Fixed engine	9	540
	Dip nets	23	621		Fyke nets	2	35
	Putcher	1	162		Other	19	150
South West	Single river	93	4,650	498	Various	16	0
	Double river	2	160				
	Fixed engine	2	160				
Welsh	Drift nets	8	1,877	535	Fyke nets	49	118
	Stop boats	6	0		Baited traps	5	30
	Lave nets	9	65		Putcheons	1	6
	Putchers	3	2,398		Fixed traps	5	30
	Seine nets	93	6,000		Elver dip	389	0
	Trammel nets	4	648				
	Sling nets	6	390				
	Coracle nets	29	1,600				
	Wade nets	14	95				
	Compass nets	8	136				
	Basket trap	1	54				

Note: Section 25(5) and (6) of the Salmon and Freshwater Act 1975 provides as follows:—

- (5) A fishing licence for the use of any instrument for salmon shall authorise the use of that instrument for fishing for trout.
- (6) A fishing licence for the use of any instrument for salmon or trout shall authorise the use of that instrument for fishing for freshwater fish and eels.

The total income, including general and some special licences not specified in the above table, is given in table 2(ii). Income from general and special licences is generally small, but amounted to £38,867 in Wessex WA.

Table 2 Licence duty, income and expenditure in 1981

(i) Type, duty charged and numbers of rod licences issued

Water Authority	Species	season no.	duty £	conces. season no.	duty £	short term no.	days	duty £	conces. short term no.	duty £	day no.	duty £	conces. day no.	duty £
North West	salmon	*4,498	18.00	617	9.00	1,882	7	3.00	620	6.00	—	—	—	—
	sea trout	2,152	6.00	429	3.00	1,007	7	1.20	—	—	—	—	—	—
	freshwater, trout	56,665	3.60	12,552	1.80	20,339	7	0.60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northumbrian	salmon, sea trout	2,951	10.00	834	5.00	404	14	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
	trout	10,229	4.60	6,412	2.30	1,951	14	1.80	—	—	—	—	—	—
	freshwater	2,354	2.00	2,366	1.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Severn Trent	salmon, sea trout	1,194	20.00	619	4.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	freshwater, trout	200,570	2.50	66,380	0.50	26,297	28	1.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yorkshire	salmon, sea trout	145	24.00	68	12.00	41	7	9.60	26	4.80	52	4.80	15	2.40
	freshwater, trout	78,756	3.00	24,036	1.50	11,426	7	1.20	2,364	0.70	—	—	—	—
Anglian	all regional	38,470	3.80	50,595	1.00	84,203	7	0.75	—	—	—	—	—	—
	all divisional	104,022	2.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thames	all licences	116,218	4.00	11,906	1.00	53,176	15	1.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
Southern	salmon	59	17.00	—	—	3	14	5.75	—	—	5	2.85	—	—
	all trout	7,532	5.60*	—	—	2,107	14	1.50	—	—	—	—	—	—
	freshwater	48,514	2.75*	—	—	9,346	28	1.50	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wessex	salmon	351	20.00	128	10.00	—	—	—	—	—	149	3.60	8	1.80
	all trout	3,692	7.10	1,410	3.55	1,615	7	1.80	217	0.90	—	—	—	—
	freshwater	16,494	5.25	8,808	2.60	14,696	7	1.30	3,280	0.65	—	—	—	—
South West	salmon, sea trout	1,865	16.00	819	8.00	758	7	8.00	—	—	2,302	2.00	383	1.00
	trout	2,784	4.00	3,047	2.00	2,518	7	2.00	—	—	3,710	0.75	—	—
	freshwater	6,770	1.00	3,906	0.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Welsh	* { salmon A	1,009	37.25	495	18.65	72	7	18.65	—	—	822	6.20	—	—
	and C	4,900	18.65	1,294	9.45	1,212	7	9.45	—	—	2,204	3.10	—	—
	sea D	3,718	12.40	1,343	6.20	1,048	7	6.20	—	—	1,760	2.05	—	—
	trout E	849	9.80	298	4.90	193	7	4.90	—	—	280	1.95	—	—
	trout F	22,201	5.20	16,848	2.60	4,071	7	3.10	—	—	33,062	1.05	—	—
	freshwater G	8,516	3.10	4,720	1.55	—	—	—	—	—	5,738	1.05	—	—

Note: North West *includes 2,748 at £12.00 for licences from June 1st.
Southern *also licences for juniors at £1.50 and £0.75 respectively.
Welsh *to amalgamate A–E by 1983 season.

(ii) Fisheries service revenue account for the year ending 31 March 1982

Water Authority	Income (£000s)			Expenditure (£000s)			
	licence duty		total (incl. other)*	enforcement and protection	fish culture conservation		total (incl. other)**
	commercial	rod			hatchery	other	
North West	10	334	361	511	49	55	1,213
Northumbrian	17	107	134	209	3	—	432
Severn Trent	9	590	694	182	100	220	952
Yorkshire	12	284	366	201	119	—	572
Anglian	0	470	478	121	13	26	474
Thames	0	529	566	123	122	21	631
Southern	0	221	241	87	55	75	379
Wessex	2	218	220	93	32	96	393
South West	5	81	107	337	54	60	690
Welsh	12	515	495	737	16	30	1,337
Total	67	3,349	3,662	2,601	563	583	7,073

Note: *income for commercial and rod licences is usually for the calendar year whilst the total income is for the financial year.
**other expenditure includes liaison, advisory, research and technical services and administration. Depreciation is included but interest payments excluded.

Yorkshire — Provision for grants = £9,000
South West — Fish Culture & Conservation: Hatcheries — 20% charged to fisheries, 80% to recreation.
Other — 85% charged to fisheries, 15% to recreation.

Table 3 Monthly reported rod catches of salmon and grilse by principal rivers in 1981

Water Authority	River	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Un-known	total	average weight lb
North West	Esk	—	4	4	0	0	0	8	7	52	39	—	—	—	114	11.1
	Eden	13	26	45	45	45	33	32	29	69	116	—	—	—	453	11.4
	Derwent	—	1	2	2	2	34	83	88	187	209	—	—	—	608	9.3
	Kent	—	0	0	0	8	16	23	31	28	37	—	—	—	143	7.4
	Lune	—	0	0	0	11	38	34	50	172	151	—	—	—	456	11.0
	Ribble	—	0	3	5	24	47	52	68	196	309	—	—	—	704	10.6
	Hodder	—	0	0	5	0	14	30	34	86	149	—	—	—	318	7.3
	Others	—	0	0	5	0	14	30	34	86	149	—	—	—	318	7.3
	total	13	31	54	57	90	182	262	307	790	1,010	—	—	—	2,796	10.0
Northumbrian	Coquet	—	3	16	46	72	30	30	27	38	85	—	—	—	347	8.7
	Tyne	—	12	13	11	26	43	8	12	27	100	—	—	—	252	13.8
	Wear	—	3	0	1	4	21	18	18	122	312	—	—	—	499	8.5
	Others	—	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	—	—	—	7	8.0
	total	—	21	31	58	102	94	57	57	187	498	—	—	—	1,105	9.8
Severn Trent		—	34	60	409	641	464	100	42	71	—	—	—	—	1,821	10.8
Yorkshire	Esk	—	—	—	0	1	6	17	27	40	74	—	—	—	165	10.7
Anglian		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thames		—	—	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—	0	—
Southern		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,260	1,260	9.4
Wessex	Avon	—	22	13	84	152	197	130	29	32	—	—	—	4	663	13.4
	Frome	—	—	6	16	16	90	99	55	18	—	—	—	—	300	11.7
	Piddle	—	—	2	5	7	8	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	27	13.0
	Others	—	—	0	0	2	4	2	0	0	—	—	—	—	8	12.3
	total	—	22	21	105	177	299	234	85	51	—	—	—	4	998	12.9
South West	Camel	—	—	—	2	5	9	25	19	21	54	75	26	—	236	8.2
	Fowey	—	—	—	5	10	30	28	25	34	80	55	30	—	297	9.0
	Lynher	—	—	1	10	14	19	9	4	13	28	—	—	—	98	9.3
	Tavy	—	—	1	2	21	16	5	3	19	56	—	—	—	123	8.6
	Tamar	—	—	24	24	194	206	129	91	249	183	—	—	9	1,109	9.0
	Taw	—	—	135	77	48	47	16	8	79	—	—	—	2	412	10.1
	Torridge	—	—	27	33	41	22	6	4	21	—	—	—	—	154	9.7
	Dart	—	12	21	18	53	28	18	6	16	—	—	—	—	172	10.1
	Teign	—	10	16	15	19	8	3	3	19	—	—	—	—	93	9.7
	Lyn	—	0	3	11	17	29	13	5	12	1	—	—	—	91	8.0
	Exe	—	28	45	32	32	25	8	26	241	—	—	—	—	437	7.6
	Others	—	—	0	0	5	7	2	1	4	9	18	17	4	67	8.7
	total	—	50	273	229	459	446	262	195	728	411	148	73	15	3,289	8.9
Welsh	Wye	22	87	159	671	1,421	1,259	773	308	364	629	—	—	0	5,693	12.0
	Dee	0	11	42	79	128	98	64	46	101	95	—	—	13	677	11.6
	Teifi	—	—	11	19	66	79	33	35	193	204	—	—	39	679	9.4
	Tywi	—	—	11	24	83	75	36	58	316	275	—	—	37	915	9.6
	Usk	0	12	36	75	151	141	39	28	107	279	—	—	6	874	9.9
	Others	0	0	15	35	115	216	209	190	580	402	—	—	142	1,904	—
	total	22	110	274	903	1,964	1,868	1,154	665	1,661	1,884	—	—	237	10,742	10.7
England and Wales		35	268	713	1,761	3,434	3,359	2,086	1,378	3,528	3,877	148	73	1,516	22,176	10.3

Data is from anglers' returns. No allowance has been made for missing returns.

"—" represents out of season or data not available.

"0" represents a nil catch within season.

Table 4 Monthly reported rod catches of sea trout by principal rivers in 1981

Water Authority	River	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Un-known	total	average weight lbs.
North West	Esk	—	—	—	—	15	153	371	164	125	152	—	—	—	980	1.5
	Eden	—	—	—	—	36	176	370	174	58	17	—	—	—	831	2.0
	Derwent	—	—	—	—	28	128	200	165	78	7	—	—	—	606	2.1
	Kent	—	—	—	—	14	38	58	61	47	10	—	—	—	228	2.1
	Lune	—	—	—	—	19	175	376	399	287	54	—	—	—	1,310	2.1
	Ribble } Hodder }	—	—	—	—	6	54	215	178	84	34	—	—	—	571	2.4
	Others	—	—	—	—	5	39	252	335	244	103	—	—	—	978	1.8
	total	—	—	—	—	123	763	1,842	1,476	923	377	—	—	—	5,504	2.0
Northumbrian	Coquet	—	0	0	4	2	11	10	13	38	121	—	—	—	199	4.8
	Tyne	—	1	0	0	0	2	3	4	12	60	—	—	—	82	4.6
	Wear	—	—	0	3	11	14	33	15	34	166	—	—	—	296	4.2
	Others	—	3	0	5	0	5	8	23	23	25	—	—	—	92	3.2
	total	—	4	0	12	13	32	54	55	127	372	—	—	—	669	4.3
Severn Trent		—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—	0	—
Yorkshire	Esk	—	—	—	7	6	25	34	41	98	155	—	—	—	366	4.3
Anglian		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thames		2	—	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—	2	—
Southern		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	947	947	2.9
Wessex	Avon	—	—	—	249	271	329	365	425	390	299	—	—	8	2,336	1.5
	Frome	—	—	—	—	1	10	24	21	29	25	—	—	—	110	2.6
	Piddle	—	—	—	—	2	4	17	21	18	16	—	—	—	78	2.4
	Stour	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	2	8	10	—	—	—	29	1.5
	Others	—	—	—	7	27	41	48	48	22	2	—	—	—	189	0.9
	total	—	—	—	256	301	389	452	517	467	352	—	—	8	2,742	1.5
South West	Camel	—	—	—	6	11	108	521	606	202	—	—	—	30	1,484	1.1
	Fowey	—	—	—	16	87	334	1,153	523	255	—	—	—	125	2,493	1.3
	Looe	—	—	—	0	0	8	35	52	32	—	—	—	0	127	1.2
	Lynher	—	—	9	20	24	59	118	64	59	—	—	—	23	376	1.6
	Tavy	—	—	0	4	23	62	270	230	78	—	—	—	9	676	1.4
	Tamar	—	—	0	2	43	72	462	327	182	—	—	—	17	1,105	1.0
	Plym	—	—	0	6	18	105	264	251	171	—	—	—	23	838	1.4
	Taw	—	—	5	30	50	142	329	285	218	—	—	—	23	1,082	1.7
	Torridge	—	—	2	2	32	46	106	140	85	—	—	—	11	424	1.9
	Avon	—	—	—	1	4	7	97	162	59	—	—	—	24	354	1.4
	Dart	—	—	8	2	5	40	131	225	113	—	—	—	46	570	1.5
	Teign	—	—	7	13	66	180	471	923	344	93	—	—	61	2,158	1.3
	Lyn	—	—	0	1	6	32	13	5	11	—	—	—	0	68	3.0
	Exe	—	—	0	3	0	0	1	8	2	—	—	—	0	14	1.5
	Axe	—	—	—	1	2	9	59	60	8	3	—	—	0	142	1.4
	total	—	—	31	107	371	1,204	4,030	3,861	1,819	96	—	—	392	11,911	1.4
Welsh	Dwyfawr	—	—	1	0	10	159	472	1,012	336	32	—	—	628	2,650	1.4
	Dyfi	—	—	0	0	25	403	687	393	360	65	—	—	269	2,202	2.7
	Teifi	—	—	1	13	65	295	609	399	479	195	—	—	448	2,504	1.1
	Tywi	—	—	10	70	431	803	783	819	1,170	387	—	—	383	4,856	2.8
	Others	—	6	10	74	298	1,011	1,997	2,437	1,981	549	—	—	1,910	10,273	—
	total	—	6	22	157	829	2,671	4,548	5,060	4,326	1,228	—	—	3,638	22,485	2.1
England and Wales		2	10	53	539	1,643	5,084	10,960	11,010	7,760	2,580	—	—	4,985	44,626	1.9

Data is from anglers' returns. No allowance has been made for missing returns. Severn Trent and Anglian do not record catches as the numbers are small.

"—" represents out of season or data not available.

"0" represents a nil catch within season.

Table 5 Monthly reported salmon and grilse catches by commercial instruments in 1981

(i) Reported catch of salmon

Water Authority	Area and/or instrument	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Un-known	total	Average weight lb
North West	Eden/Esk — Haaf/Draw/Coops	—	—	29	65	132	335	444	84	—	1,089	10.0
	W Cumbria — Coastal Drift	—	—	0	0	6	57	137	28	—	228	10.6
	W, SW Cumbria	—	—	0	3	9	33	35	—	—	80	9.0
	Duddon — Draw	—	—	0	0	0	3	1	—	—	4	11.6
	Leven — Lave	—	—	0	0	0	7	2	—	—	9	11.6
	Kent — Lave	—	—	0	0	1	16	12	—	—	29	10.7
	Lune — Drift, Haaf, Draw	—	—	0	35	190	710	382	—	—	1,317	13.9
	Ribble — Drift	—	—	0	30	136	394	217	—	—	777	12.5
	total	—	—	29	133	474	1,555	1,230	112	—	3,533	12.0
Northumbrian	North Drift	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19,458	19,458	11.0
	South Drift	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,496	7,496	11.1
	total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26,954	26,954	11.0
Severn Trent		—	61	180	698	876	837	362	—	—	3,014	—
Yorkshire	Esk — nets	0	0	41	144	886	2,221	1,141	—	—	4,433	11.6
Southern	(incl. grilse)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	233	233	5.9
Wessex	Avon/Stour — Draft	—	2	9	108	199	276	—	—	—	594	11.2
	Frome/Piddle — Draft	—	—	4	12	23	16	—	—	—	55	12.6
	total	—	2	13	120	222	292	—	—	—	649	11.4
South West	Avon	—	—	1	0	0	1	0	0	—	2	5.6
	Carnel	—	6	25	39	78	103	99	—	—	350	8.5
	Dart	—	7	112	331	439	635	191	—	—	1,715	9.0
	Exe	21	22	174	234	442	422	180	—	—	1,495	7.9
	Taw/Torridge	—	—	312	389	574	664	428	—	—	2,367	10.0
	Fowey	—	0	4	10	20	63	105	—	—	202	7.6
	Lyn	—	—	2	17	15	44	20	—	—	98	6.9
	Lynher	—	1	14	28	94	270	119	—	—	526	8.0
	Tamar	—	12	111	152	499	673	373	—	—	1,820	8.6
	Tavy	—	0	14	27	136	244	99	—	—	520	8.9
	Teign	—	2	51	142	339	559	271	—	—	1,364	8.6
	total (incl. grilse)	21	50	820	1,369	2,636	3,678	1,885	—	—	10,459	8.8
Welsh	Dee	—	46	189	291	495	720	488	—	—	2,229	9.8
	Teifi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	285	285	10.0
	Tywi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	431	431	6.1
	Usk — Nets	—	11	126	392	508	511	226	—	—	1,774	9.9
	— Fixed engines	—	0	47	513	360	479	118	—	—	1,517	10.7
	Wye	1	6	32	151	236	354	78	—	—	858	10.1
	Others	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,552	1,552	na
	total (incl. grilse)	1	63	394	1,347	1,599	2,064	910	—	2,268	8,646	8.9
England and Wales		22	176	1,477	3,811	6,693	10,647	5,528	112	29,455	57,921	9.8

(ii) Reported catch of grilse (salmon < 7lb)

Water Authority	Area and/or instrument	Feb	May	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Un-known	total	Average weight lb
North West	Eden/Esk — Haaf/Draw/Coops	—	—	0	0	12	68	168	0	—	248	5.2
	W Cumbria — Coastal Drift	—	—	0	0	8	76	135	10	—	229	6.1
	W, SW Cumbria	—	—	0	2	1	17	29	0	—	49	5.3
	Duddon — Draw	—	—	0	0	0	0	1	0	—	1	6.5
	Leven — Lave	—	—	0	0	0	9	7	0	—	16	4.9
	Kent — Lave	—	—	0	1	1	20	4	0	—	26	5.4
	Lune — Drift/Haaf/Draw	—	—	0	0	31	424	458	0	—	913	5.7
	Ribble — Drift	—	—	0	1	3	14	15	0	—	33	6.3
	total	—	—	0	4	56	628	817	10	—	1,515	5.7
Northumbrian	North Drift	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,273	20,273	6.0
	South Drift	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,653	10,653	5.8
	total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30,926	30,926	6.0
Severn Trent		—	—	1	14	81	543	350	—	—	989	na
Yorkshire	Esk — Nets	0	0	11	24	344	4,586	1,846	—	—	6,811	6.2
Wessex	(grilse < 8lb)	—	—	—	—	27	154	—	—	—	181	5.9
England and Wales		—	—	12	42	508	5,911	3,013	10	30,926	40,422	6.0

Anglian and Thames report nil catch. Southern, South West and Welsh do not record grilse separately.

Table 6 Monthly reported sea trout catches by commercial instruments in 1981

Water Authority	Area and/or instrument	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Un-known	total	average weight lb
North West	Eden/Esk – Solway Haaf Eden Draw/Coops }	–	–	75	804	2,225	804	47	–	–	3,955	2.2
	W Cumbria – Coastal Drift	–	–	0	0	12	5	0	–	–	17	4.7
	W & SW – Nets and Cumbria – Fixed engines }	–	–	0	0	0	109	83	–	–	192	2.3
	Duddon – Draw	–	–	0	0	1	9	1	–	–	11	3.1
	Leven – Lave	–	–	0	0	1	7	1	–	–	9	3.9
	Kent – Lave	–	–	0	0	1	9	2	–	–	12	4.7
	Lune – Drift, Haaf, Draw	–	–	0	123	518	270	24	–	–	935	4.0
	Ribble – Drift	–	–	0	0	10	7	1	–	–	18	5.7
	total	–	–	75	927	2,768	1,220	159	–	–	5,149	2.6
Northumbrian	North Drift	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	20,750	20,750	4.1
	South Drift	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	17,727	17,727	4.6
	total	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	38,477	38,477	4.3
Severn Trent		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	0	–
Yorkshire	Esk – Nets	–	0	5	2,134	6,032	8,380	4,423	–	–	20,974	4.4
Anglian		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Thames		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Southern		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,846	1,846	3.1
Wessex	Avon/Stour – Draft	–	–	1	49	378	351	–	–	–	779	4.8
	Frome/Piddle – Draft	–	–	1	4	32	25	–	–	–	62	6.8
	total	–	–	2	53	410	376	–	–	–	841	5.9
South West	Avon	–	–	2	5	1	0	0	0	–	8	3.8
	Axe	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Camel	–	4	12	44	65	25	26	–	–	176	4.1
	Dart	–	12	122	208	257	225	21	–	–	845	2.2
	Exe	–	1	11	15	4	5	0	–	–	36	3.2
	Taw/Torridge	–	–	627	1,450	1,151	766	120	–	–	4,114	3.1
	Fowey	–	0	6	28	44	11	2	–	–	91	3.0
	Looe	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Lyn	–	–	2	11	55	36	8	–	–	112	3.6
	Lynher	–	0	1	22	16	4	3	–	–	46	3.6
	Tamar	–	2	38	54	79	9	2	–	–	184	3.0
	Tavy	–	0	41	76	74	14	0	–	–	205	3.2
	Teign	–	8	253	521	692	82	3	–	–	1,559	2.7
	total	–	27	1,115	2,434	2,438	1,177	185	0	–	7,376	2.9
Welsh	Dee & Clwyd Division	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,045	2,045	3.9
	Teifi	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	950	950	3.7
	Tywi	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3,100	3,100	4.1
	Dwynfawr	–	–	0	11	148	149	54	–	–	362	4.9
	Dyfi	–	–	13	202	1,213	147	2	–	–	1,577	3.8
	Others	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,880	1,880	–
	total	–	–	13	213	1,361	296	56	–	7,975	9,914	1.5
England and Wales		–	27	1,210	5,761	13,009	11,449	4,823	–	48,298	84,577	2.7

“–” represents out of season or data not available.

“0” represents a nil catch within season.

Table 7 Salmon stocking in 1981

Water Authority	River	Ova	Unfed fry	Fed fry	Parr	Smolts
North West	Border Esk	—	40,000	15,000	—	—
	Eden & Tribs.	—	—	230,000	—	3,150
	Ellen	—	—	—	—	2,000
	Derwent & Tribs.	—	—	70,000	—	—
	Ehen	—	—	20,000	—	—
	Calder	—	—	10,000	—	—
	Irt	—	—	20,000	—	—
	Esk	—	—	20,000	—	—
	Duddon	29,100	—	10,000	—	—
	Leven	—	—	—	—	4,771
	Kent	—	—	20,700	—	—
	Lune & Tribs.	60,500	80,000	210,000	—	—
	Ribble/Hodder + Tribs.	—	—	66,200	—	—
	Wyre & Tribs.	—	—	21,000	—	—
	total	89,600	120,000	712,900	—	9,921
Northumbrian	Tyne	—	—	—	370,000	—
	Wear	—	—	—	30,000	—
	total	—	—	—	400,000	—
Severn Trent	Elifior Brook	—	10,000	—	—	—
	Luggy Brook	—	10,000	—	—	—
	Afon Male	—	10,000	—	—	—
	Afon Eirth	—	10,000	—	—	—
	total	—	40,000	—	—	—
Yorkshire	Esk	—	15,000	—	—	—
Anglian		—	—	—	—	—
Thames	19 Tributaries	—	—	—	47,300	—
	Thames	—	—	—	—	5,000
	total	—	—	—	47,300	5,000
Southern		—	—	—	—	—
Wessex	Avon	—	—	—	—	4,000
	Frome	—	—	—	—	895
	total	—	—	—	—	4,895
South West	Axe	6,600	—	—	—	—
	Torridge	—	—	—	6,014	4,500
	Haddeo (Exe)	—	—	—	490	—
	Kensey (Tamar)	—	—	—	600	—
	Cad (Plym)	—	—	—	400	—
	Lyd (Tamar)	—	—	—	250	—
	Fowey	—	—	—	—	203
	total	6,600	—	—	7,754	4,703
Welsh	Eastern Cleddau	—	—	—	30,000	—
	Dysynni	—	—	3,700	—	—
	Wnion	—	—	3,000	—	—
	Mawddach	—	—	1,000	—	—
	Lledr	—	—	10,000	—	—
	Glaslyn	—	—	50,000	—	—
	Llugwy	—	—	40,000	—	—
	Alwen	—	—	50,000	—	—
	Ceirw	—	—	30,000	—	—
	Uppr Dee	—	—	60,000	—	—
	Tryweryn	—	—	20,000	—	—
	Ceidiog	—	—	10,000	—	—
	Wye tributaries	—	—	30,000	—	—
	Gwendraeth Fawr	—	—	—	5,000	—
	Lash	—	—	—	8,000	—
	total	—	—	307,700	43,000	—
England and Wales		96,200	175,000	1,020,600	498,054	24,519

Table 8 Fish catches declared in England and Wales 1974–1981

(i) Rod catches

Year	Salmon (including grilse)		Sea trout	
	no.	kg.	no.	kg.
1974	24,740	101,620	43,280	30,290
1975	24,590	100,290	37,800	25,210
1976	10,590	46,050	21,270	17,100
1977	18,980	82,540	26,160	22,400
1978	17,350	84,590	30,400	21,860
1979	14,120	57,650	47,490	36,290
1980	22,060	91,260	42,410	36,080
1981	22,180	103,750	44,630	38,500

(ii) Commercial catches

Year	Salmon (including grilse)				Sea trout			
	nets		fixed engines		nets		fixed engines	
	no.	kg.	no.	kg.	no.	kg.	no.	kg.
1974	80,470	↔	282,350	↔	57,450	↔	104,860	↔
1975	86,620	325,810	2,890	12,510	61,150	117,660	110	150
1976	41,320	148,910	2,420	12,130	58,500	107,550	150	290
1977	73,460	255,170	1,720	8,210	53,630	101,860	60	90
1978	73,670	276,130	2,210	10,530	55,240	92,960	50	100
1979	60,010	205,560	1,420	4,730	67,790	115,610	170	280
1980	66,130	254,790	3,230	13,910	97,610	167,820	110	190
1981	91,510	371,150	4,330	12,280	83,240	152,220	150	270

Note: Catches prior to 1974 can be found in the Association of River Authorities annual reports.
Further information on historic catches can be found in "Taking Stock" published by the Association of River Authorities in March 1974. It also gives descriptions of the types of nets and fixed engines used in salmon fishing.
The 1974 sea trout commercial catches exclude returns from Cumbria and Seine nets in Wales.

Figure 1 Salmon catches declared in England and Wales 1953–81

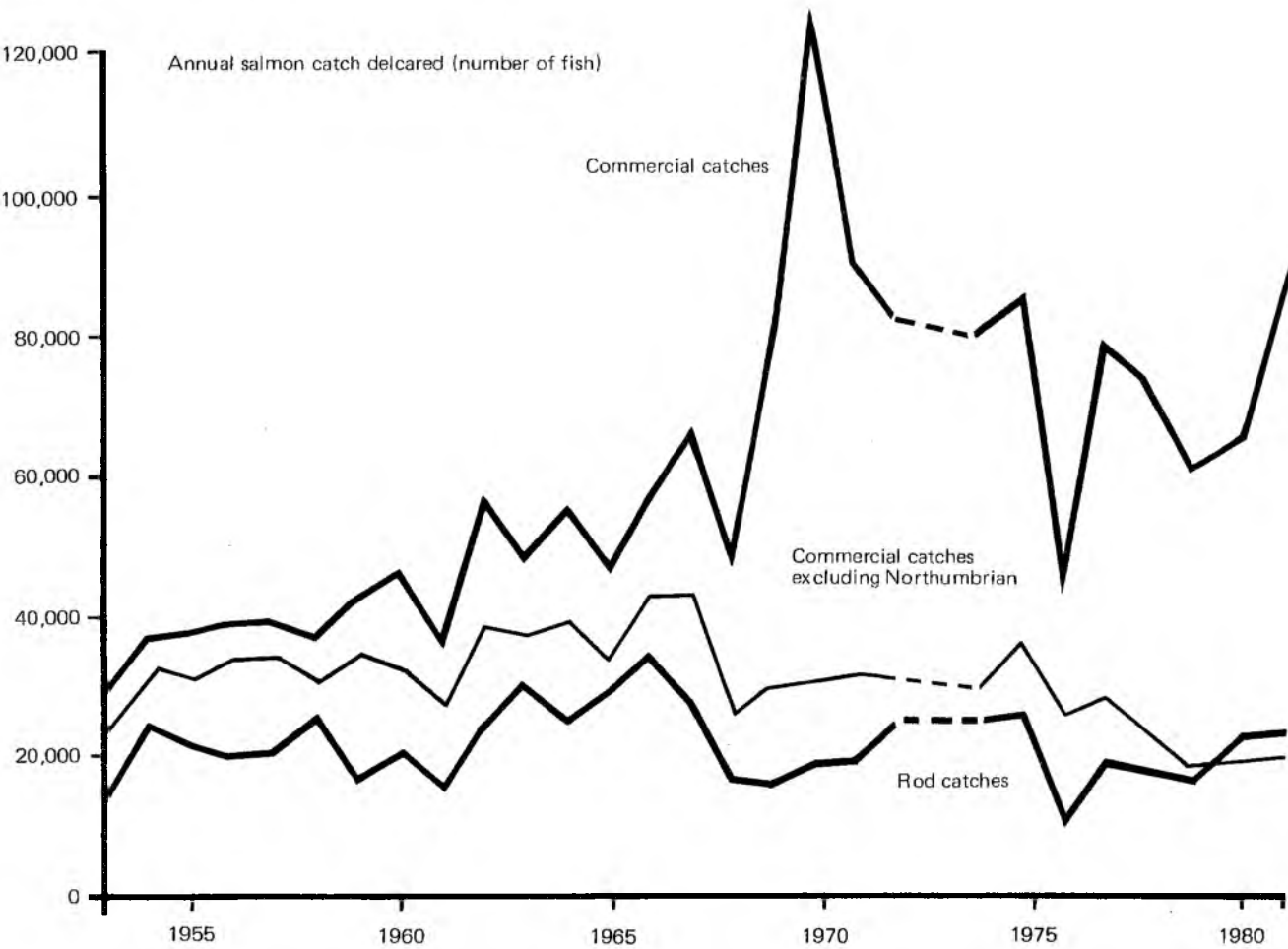
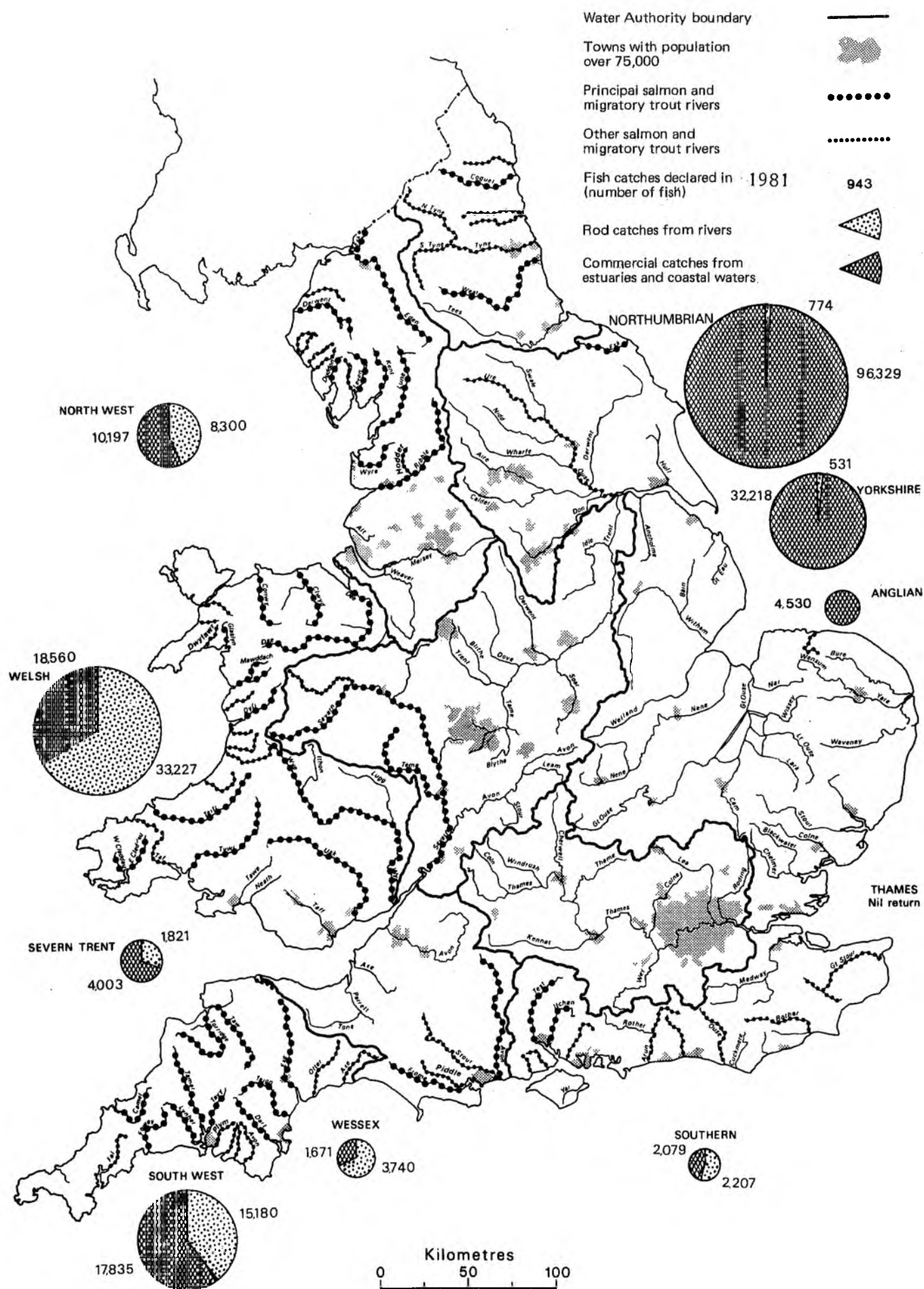


Figure 2 Salmon and sea trout rivers and catches



RF2/A1

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

25TH APRIL, 1983

DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, 1983-84

1. The Authority at its annual meeting in June is required to consider a calendar of meetings for the Authority, its Committees and Sub-Committees up to and including the next annual meeting. In the present circumstances of impending water industry reorganisation, a provisional draft calendar for meetings of Regional and Area Fisheries Advisory Committees has been prepared and the proposed dates are set out in the appendix hereto for the information of members.
2. The Committee is invited to give preliminary approval to the draft calendar. Any variations made at the annual meeting will be notified.

REGIONAL AND AREA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 1983-84

ADVISORY COMMITTEETIME AND DATE OF MEETING

REGIONAL	2.15 p.m.	Monday	27th June, 1983
Northern Area	2.30 p.m.	Monday	10th October, 1983
Central Area	2.30 p.m.	Wednesday	12th October, 1983
Southern Area	2.30 p.m.	Wednesday	19th October, 1983
REGIONAL	2.15 p.m.	Monday	7th November, 1983
REGIONAL	2.15 p.m.	Monday	30th January, 1984
Northern Area	2.30 p.m.	Monday	26th March, 1984
Central Area	2.30 p.m.	Wednesday	28th March, 1984
Southern Area	2.30 p.m.	Wednesday	4th April, 1984
REGIONAL	2.15 p.m.	Monday	30th April, 1984